

REMARKS

This timely replies the Office Action mailed on February 20, 2004. Claims 1, 5, 9-13 and 18-22 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 5 and 18 are independent claims. In view of the following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and timely withdrawal of the pending objections and rejections for the reasons discussed below.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 5, 18 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U. S. Patent No. 5,835,139 issued to Yun, *et al.* ("Yun") in view of U. S. Patent No. 5,986,726 issued to Murai, *et al.* ("Murai"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

With respect to independent claims 1 and 5, independent claim 1 recites "a chassis coupled to said mold frame to fix said backlight assembly and said liquid crystal display panel therebetween and *formed to be gradually thinner as further advancing from a first side adjoining said light source toward a second side opposite said first side*". Similarly, claim 5 recites "a chassis ... formed to be gradually thinner as further advancing from a first side adjoining said light source toward a second side opposite said first side".

In the Office Action, the Examiner admitted "Yun does not disclose expressly the particular shapes of the mold frame and the chassis, in the manner recited in the claim 1 and claim 5" (Office Action, page 4). Also, the Examiner admitted that Yun fails to disclose "the combination of Murai and Yun discloses all the claimed limitation except for the particular shape of the chassis, in the manner as recited in the claims 1 and 5" (Office Action, page 5).

Regarding the deficiency from the cited references, the Examiner stated "it would have been within the level of skill in the art and obvious to one having ordinary skill to engineer design the shape of the Yun chassis as desired as the shape of the mold frame taught in the Murai reference and as was judicially recognized in *re Dailey*, 149 USPQ47 (CCPA 1976), because this would provide an apparatus with features of small size, thin thickness and light weight, as taught by Murai (col. 2, lines 1-3). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill to obtain the invention of claims 1 and 5" (Office Action, page 5). This assertion is respectfully disagreed with.

First, as MPEP 2143.03 indicates, to establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claimed limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. In *re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). As the Examiner admitted, Murai and Yun fails to disclose "a chassis ... formed to be gradually thinner as further advancing from a first side adjoining said light source toward a second side opposite said first side".

Also, none of the references suggests modifying their chassis to be gradually thinner as claimed. Murai is directed to solving the problem of the structure shown in Fig. 9, in which "The light guiding plate 107, a receiving portion 121 of the resin frame 102 and the driver circuit board are filed up in thickness-direction structure in the conventional flat panel display device 100" (column 1, lines 32-34).

To solve this problem, Murai discloses, as shown in Figs. 1 and 5, reducing the thickness of the resin frame 2. As Murai describes "The thickness of the resin frame 2 becomes thin ... but the strength thereof becomes possibly weak. It is, however, reinforced with the metal sheet 1 so that the resultant strength of the resin frame 2 and the metal sheet 1 is equal to or stronger than that of a sufficiently thick conventional resin frame" (column 4, lines 27-32).

As such, in Murai, the solution was reducing the thickness of the mold frame 2 and reinforcing the mold frame 2 with the metal sheet 1. Here, in Murai, forming the metal bezel 8 to be gradually thinner as claimed has *no impact* on achieving its intended purpose of reducing the thickness of the stack comprising the light guide plate 107, the resin frame 102 and the driver circuit board 104 in Fig. 9. Thus, in Murai, there is no desirability to modify the metal bezel 8 to be formed as claimed.

For these reasons, Applicants submit that the cited references fails to disclose or suggest all the claim limitations, and, hence, the Examiner has not established a *prima facie* case of obviousness on claims 1 and 5. Thu, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 5 are patentable therefrom.

With respect to claims 18 and 19, amended independent claim 18 recites:

“18. An information processing apparatus comprising:
...
a liquid crystal display panel that has *a source printed circuit board attached thereto* to transmit signals, and receives said light from said backlight assembly to display images;
a mold frame that accepts said backlight assembly and said liquid crystal display panel; and
...
an information processing module *directly attached on a rear plane of said mold frame* and having a liquid crystal display panel driving circuit to generate a driving signal and supplying said driving signal to said liquid crystal display panel *via said source printed circuit board.*”

In the Office Action, the Examiner admitted “Yun does not disclose expressly the information processing module (23) directly attached on a rear plane of the mold frame ...” (Office Action , page 3) Regarding this missing feature, the Examiner stated “an information

processing module (a driver circuit board 4) directly attached to a rear plane of the mold frame (a bottom portion of a metal sheet). This assertion is respectfully disagreed with.

In Fig. 5 of Murai, the driver circuit board 4 is not directly mounted on the rear surface of the metal sheet 1. The driver circuit board 4 is directly mounted on the isolation sheet 3, which is formed between the driver circuit board 4 and the metal sheet 1. Thus, Murai does not disclose “an information processing module *directly attached on a rear surface of said mold frame*”.

Since none of the cited references discloses or suggests this claimed feature, it would not have been obvious to combine the cited references to arrive at the claimed invention. Thus, it is submitted that claim 18 is patentable over the cited references. Claim 19 that is dependent from claim 18 would be also patentable at least for the same reason.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claims 1, 5, 18 and 19.

Claims 9-13 and 20-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yun in view of Murai, and further in view of U. S. Patent No. 5,475,381 to Williamson (“Williamson”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 9-13 are dependent from claim 5. As previously mentioned, claim 5 is believed to be patentable over Yun and Murai. For example, Yun and Murai do not disclose or suggest the chassis formed to be gradually thinner as claimed. Also, there is no motivation for the asserted modification.

Williamson is directed to a high speed infrared communication system comprising a liquid crystal display 12 in Fig. 1 and a micro-controller 56 in Fig. 2. However, Williamson fails to cure the deficiency from Yun and Murai. Particularly, Williamson fails to disclose or suggest

the chassis formed to be gradually thinner as claimed. Since none of the cited references discloses or suggests this claimed feature, it is submitted that claim 5 is patentable over them. Claims 9-13 that are dependent from claim 5 would be also patentable at least for the same reason.

With respect to claims 20-22, these claims are dependent from claim 18. As previously mentioned, claim 18 is believed to be patentable over Yun and Murai. For example, Yun and Murai fails to disclose or suggest “an information processing module *directly attached on a rear surface of said mold frame*”. Williamson fails to disclose or suggest this claimed feature. Thus, it is submitted that claim 18 is patentable over Yun, Murai and Williamson. Claims 20-22 that are dependent from claim 18 would be also patentable at least for the same reason.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claims 9-13 and 20-22.

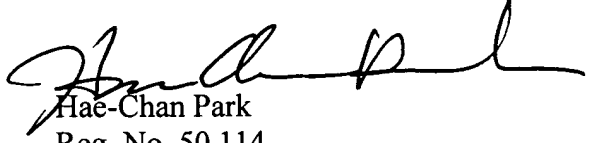
CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that a full and complete response has been made to the pending Office Action and respectfully submit that all of the stated grounds for rejection have been overcome or rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are allowable and that the application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the number below to expedite prosecution.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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